Institutional Committee

353. SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to set up an Institutional Committee comprising representatives of IFCI, ICICI, IDBI to ensure adequate finance to aviation industry;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Government has also decided to set up a 'civil aviation development fund' to improve air services in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how it will help the aviation industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) and (b) With a view to studying the various issues relating to fixing of infrastructure required for aviation sector, it has been decided to set up a high-powered Inter Institutional Group (IIG) comprising representatives of the State Bank of India (SBI), IFCI, ICICI, IDFC and the Industrial Development bank of India (IDBI).

(c) and (d) The proposal to set up a 'Civil Aviation Development Fund' is part of the draft civil aviation policy.

[Translation]

Setting up of TV towers in Bihar

354. SHRIMATI SUBHAWATI DEVI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for setting up of T.V. towers;

(b) whether the proposal for setting up T.V. towers at Trimuhani Ghat, Baheda, Darbhanga (Bihar) is under consideration of the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether Trimuhani Ghat fulfil all the criterion for setting up of a T.V. tower; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not setting up of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) The broad criterion for setting up of TV transmitter project include various factors such as coverge to hitherto uncovered areas, particularly the hilly, backward, tribal, remote, sensitive and border areas, availability of basic infrastructural facilities and extent of resultant coverage.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The location Trimuhani Ghat, Baheda lies within the fringe serivce area of the HPT, Patna which is located at an estimated aerial distance of 105 kms. from Baheda. Elevated antenna and boosters are required for satisfactory reception of TV service in the area. Setting up of TV transmitters is a continuous activity depending upon availability of resources and other infrastructural facilities.

[English]

Drinking water and Sanitation Programme in Karnataka

355. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank aided drinking water and environmental sanitation schemes are being implemented in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the places selected for development under the above scheme in the state and the amount spent so far and proposed to be spent during 1997-98, project-wise;

(c) whether the World Bank Appraisal Team has visited the state in the recent past; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the recommendations and suggestions put forward by them ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following districts are covered under the above scheme.

1. Bangalore 2. Belgaum 3. Hellary 4. Bihar 5. D. Kannada 6. Gulbarga 7. Mandya 8. Mysore 9. Raichur and 10. Shimoga.

The expenditure incurred upto September, 1997 is Rs.950 million. The amount expected to be spent during the remaining part of 1997-98 is Rs. 200 million.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Appraisal Team has suggested that hydraulic testing of all completed over-head tanks and pipelines

should be undertaken immediately, Karnataka Electricity Board connections are to be expedited for phase 1 water supply schemes, NGOs need to be oriented on the latrine technologies and their costs for effective marketing, promotional literature needs to be produced and made available to them. Designs and specifications are required to be formulated for single pit latrines, steps need to be taken to ensure availability of pans, demonstration latrines are to be constructed at gram panchayat offices or other suitable places and concurrent evaluation should be organised on latrine usage and other important aspects. The Team also suggested better utilisation of funds to complete the project in time.

Encroachments in Government colonies

356. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any action to detect the persons responsible for encroachments like taxi stands, shops and religious structures in Government colonies in Delhi/New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Taxi Stands : 4 nos.

Shops : 406 nos.

Religious structures : 56 nos.

(c) Cases have been reported to local bodies, Directorate of Estates and police for removal of encroachments. Legal action under Unauthorised Premises Eviction Act is being taken against the encroachers. Help of special Task force constituted by Delhi Government is also being taken in this regard.

Building Collapse at Dadar Railway Station

357. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY :
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a parcel depot building at platform No. 6 of Dadar Railway station in Mumbai had collapsed on October 21,1997;

(b) if so, the causes of such collapse;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured as a result thereof ;

(d) the compensation given to the victims;

(e) whether the said building was declared unsafe;

(f) whether any responsibility has been fixed for poor maintenance of the said building;

(g) if so, the details thereof ; and

(h) the action taken against the persons held responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) Prima facie it is poor design and failure of the Senior Sectional Engineer to maintain the structure. Commissioner of Railway Safety,Mumbai Circle is holding a Statutory inquiry and he has engaged an expert to help him in arriving at the cause of this incident. The report is awaited.

(c) Eleven persons died and 81 were injured.

(d) An exgratia Payment of Rs. 50,000/- each to the next of kin of deseased; Rs.10,000/- each to those injured and Rs.500 each those suffered minor injuries were paid by the Railways.

(e) No,Sir.

(f) to (h) The Senior Sectional Engineer and Junior Engineer in charge for the maintenance have been placed under suspension. Responsibility could be fixed after receipt of the Enquiry Report.

Production of Wagons

358. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether only 5 per cent of the total requirement of wagons for Railways is being placed through the wagons India Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the conversion charges which the industry got were only 15 per cent of the total price of a wagon and 85 per cent was the cost of the material supplied by the Railways;

(d) whether the Railways supplied steel and other inputs free of cost to other suppliers of wagons by revising the terms of contract; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?